(c) whether the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) now propose to suspend these companies from carrying out any business activities with the DoT; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Show cause notices have been served on all the private companies who are accused of cartelisation in the Tender.

(c) and (d) A decision will be taken in this regard after examination of the replies received from the companies, to whom the show cause notices have been issued by the Department.

Posting of Employees

2970. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government employees of Department of Telecommunications and Posts have a tenure posting of only one year in Ladakh division of Jammu and Kashmir and some North Eastern States of the country;

(b) whether newly recruited employees with no practical experiences are being posted to men the vacant posts and to handle sophisticated equipments causing damages to the costly machines;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the tenure of one year posting in the places mentioned above is likely to be extended to two years;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) (i) The employees of Department of Telecommunications are posted for one year tenure in Ladakh division of Jammu and Kashmir other than the staff recruited exclusively for Leh Secondary Switching Area. As regards North Eastern States, there is no tenure of one year for employees of Department of Telecommunications.

(ii) The officers of Department of Posts are posted for a tenure of one year in the State of Jammu and Kashmir including Ladakh division. As regards North Eastern States, there is no tenure of one year for the employees of Department of Posts.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Not applicable.

(f) (i) Department of Telecommunications: Most of the employees other than those recruited for Leh Secondary Switching Area are from outside Ladakh region and because of severe climatic conditions, a tenure of one year has been fixed. But if some employee wants to stay for longer period, the same is agreed to.

(ii) The one year tenure in Jammu and Kashmir for officers of the Department of Posts has been fixed so that willing personnel are available.

[Translation]

Scheme for Special air Package Toura

2971. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme relating to special air package tours for famous pilgrimages of Rajasthan is under consideration of the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the names of the places likely to be included in this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Sorting Office at Namakkal

2972. SHRI K. KANDASAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start a Sorting Office at District Headquarters Namakkal in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the time by when if is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Head Post Office in Bhuj

2973. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work of Bhuj Head Post Office district Kutch of Gujarat has been completed;

(b) if so, the estimated cost and the actual expenditure incurred thereon; and